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Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 00537 131534Z

61
ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-06 EB-07 L-02 /031 W
---------- 032853
R 131430Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7725
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.89. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, CZ
SUBJECT: PAYMENT OF AUTHORS' ROYALTIES
REF: STATE 032812

1. EMBASSY DISCUSSIONS WITH DELIA THEATRICAL AND LITERARY AGENCY SPOKESMAN INDICATE CZECH ROYALTY PAYMENTS TO U.S. AUTHORS ARE MADE IN DOLLARS AT OFFICIAL EXCHANGE RATES WITH UP TO 50 PER CENT OF FEE BEING PAID ON DATE OF CONTRACT SIGNING AND BALANCE WITHIN 90 DAYS OF ACTUAL PUBLICATION.

2. EMBASSY EXAMINED ACTUAL CONTRACT CALLING FOR PAYMENT OF DOLS 300 TO AMERICAN PUBLISHING HOUSE FOR RIGHTS TO PRINT 6000 COPIES IN ONE EDITION. PROVISION IS ROUTINELY MADE IN SUCH CONTRACTS FOR INCREASES IN NUMBER OF COPIES PRINTED IN ONE EDITION WITH FINAL PAYMENT BEING INCREASED ON PRO RATA BASIS. ADDITONAL EDITIONS ARE ROUTINELY PRINTED ONLY UNDER PROVISIONS OF SEPERATE CONTRACTS.

3. DELIA REPRESENTATIVE REPORTED CZECH POLICY OF DISCOURAGING ESTABLISHMENT OF CZECH CROWN ACCOUNTS AND SAID SUCH ARRANGEMENTS ARE UNCOMMON AND MADE ONLY AT SPECIFIC REQUEST OF AUTHOR OR AGENT. DELIA COULD NOT PROVIDE IMMEDIATE ANSWER RE NUMBER OF SUCH ACCOUNTS IN EXISTENCE BUT INSISTED THAT SUCH ARRANGEMENTS
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WITH U.S. AUTHORS ARE PARTICULARLY RARE.

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4. EMBASSY CAN PURSUE QUESTION IN WRITTEN INQUIRIES, EITHER THROUGH SPOKESMAN TO DELIA ACCOUNTING OFFICE OR DIRECTLY TO ZIVNOSTENSKA BANKA OR LITA SLOVAK LITERARY AGENCY, WHICH HANDLES SUCH TRANSACTIONS IN SLOVAK REPUBLIC, AS DESIRED, BUT IS INCLINED TO ACCEPT DELIA VERBAL ASSESSMENT THAT NUMBER AND VALUE OF SUCH ACCOUNTS IS INCONSEQUENTIAL.

5. ONE OBSTACLE TO BE OVERCOME IN SUCH INQUIRIES IS LOCAL SENSITIVITY TO POSSIBLE QUESTIONS ON PAYMENT OF ROYALTIES BY U.S. PUBLISHERS TO 1968-RELATED CZECH AUTHERS. EMBASSY WOULD ANTICIPATE CONSIDRABLE DELAY IN RECEIPT ANY USEFUL RESPONSE TO DETAILED INQUIRY ON ACTUAL NUMBER AND VALUE OF CROWN ACCOUNTS.

6. FYI: DELIA SPOKESMAN RESPONDED TO INQUIRY IN IGNORANCE OF EMBASSY PURPOSES.

7. ADVISE.
PERRY

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